

# Wetland Walks: A Guide to Washington's Public Access Wetlands

## Publication No. 89-30

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This guide is a reference for locating public-access wetlands in the State of Washington. It was last updated December 1991. Please submit corrections or deletions to [tgat461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:tgat461@ecy.wa.gov).

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Wetlands are great places to visit, and your visit will be even better if you follow a few simple guidelines.

- Respect wetland inhabitants. Remember, they're at home, and you're not
- Because of the fragility of wetland areas, stay on the trails.
- As many of these public access sites are bordered by private property, please respect property lines.
- Ideally, call first. Wetland conditions change seasonally; local managers will be able to alert you to any special circumstances.
- Bring binoculars; they'll allow you to observe wildlife close-up from a distance.
- Plan your visit for dawn or dusk, and visit quietly. Twilight is the feeding time for many wetland birds, fish and mammals.
- Take field guides. The more you know about what you see, the more meaning it may have for you.

Enjoy!

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## Site Listings by County

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### Adams County

#### **Columbia National Wildlife Refuge**

6 miles northwest of Othello, off McMannaman Road

Contact: Refuge Manager, (509) 488-2668

A 1.4 mile trail with signs follows a dike through marshlands and along the shores of eight ponds. Another 1.4 mile trail loops through a riparian area with willows and other shrubs, providing an opportunity to view passerine birds, raptors, quail and deer.

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## Asotin County

### **Chief Joseph Wildlife Area**

Off Highway 3.30 miles south of Asotin

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 1, (509) 456-4082

This 9,176 acre wildlife area is on Joseph Creek near its confluence with the Grande Ronde River. Riparian wetlands and associated wildlife are abundant.

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## Benton County

### **Columbia County Park**

Between Kennewick and Richland

Contact: City of Kennewick, (509) 586-4181

The park runs four and a half miles along the Columbia River. About midway through the park is a marshy area with rushes and shrubs. A bicycle trail and a road run the entire length of the park.

### **Sacajawea State Park**

2 miles east of Pasco off Highway 12

Contact: Karl Smith, (509) 545-2361

Located at the confluence of the Columbia and Snake Rivers, this park contains two small freshwater ponds. Trails wind through the surrounding brush. Call for information about interpretive tours.

### **Two Rivers County Park**

Finley Road 2 miles southeast of Kennewick

Contact: Benton County Parks, (509) 738-3118

The county park is across the river from Sacajawea State Park and contains two acres of marshlands near the confluence of the Columbia and Snake Rivers.

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## Chelan County

### **Big Tree Loop Trail #1542**

10 miles west of Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

The one mile loop trail along the Little Wenatchee River begins at Soda Springs Campground on Forest Service Road 6500. The trail winds through old growth forest with small streams and associated wildlife. Bus parking on a paved road is available; camping and picnicking facilities are at the site.

### **Confluence of the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers**

Wenatchee

Contact: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, (509) 663-9719

A foot path connects several parks along the Columbia River. A natural area has interpretive signing.

### **Eagle Creek Pond**

12 miles northeast of Leavenworth on Eagle Creek Road #7500

Contact: Leavenworth Ranger District, (509) 782-1413

Park your vehicle and follow the road for a half-mile on foot to a large pond. The pond is surrounded by cottonwood and aspen. The access road is unpaved for the last four miles.

**Hatchery Creek Pond**

On Hatchery Creek Road #7905

2 miles west of Highway 2 at Tumwater Bridge

Contact: Leavenworth Ranger District, (509) 782-1413

Walk for a quarter mile on an overgrown road to a pond and associated wetlands.

Ducks, deer and woodpeckers inhabit the area. The access road is unpaved.

**Lake Wenatchee State Park**

22 miles north of Leavenworth

Contact: Park Manager, (509) 763-3101

Located at the headwaters of the Wenatchee River, this park contains some small areas of lake wetlands but has mostly sandy beaches, providing habitat for waterfowl, beaver, mink and otter.

**Mouth Of Stehekin River at Lake Chelan**

Stehekin

Contact: North Cascades National Park, (509) 682-4404

Take a four hour boat trip to Stehekin and walk along the shore of Lake Chelan for approximately 1.3 miles to the wetland. This area is a cottonwood-alder-willow riparian zone with emergent vegetation and sedges. The lake is up (at or near full pool) from late June to mid-September. Rental bikes are available.

**Nason Creek Riparian Interpretive Trails**

West of Highway 2 on Highway 207

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

These trails begin at Fish Pond and Nason Campgrounds. They are one mile and five miles long respectively. Both provide views of the river and backwater riparian areas. Picnicking and camping facilities are available.

**Old Icicle Trail**

17 miles west of Leavenworth on Icicle Road #76

Contact: Leavenworth Ranger District, (509) 782-1413

The two mile trail crosses over white water on Icicle River and continues into riparian areas. The access road is unpaved for the last six miles.

**Rainy Pass Pond**

4 miles north of Highway 2 on Smithbrook/Rainy Creek Road #6700

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

Rainy Crock Road takes you past avalanche chutes, wet meadows, falls, old growth timber, and talus slopes to the high alpine pond. Short trails encircle this fragile pond. The road provides a good view for people who have difficulty walking.

**Snowy Creek Trail #1531**

13 miles west of Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station on Rainy Creek Road #6700

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

Follow a one mile trail through an old growth-forested riparian area. Huckleberries are abundant in the Fall. The access road is gravel, with bus parking. There are no restrooms.

**Swallow Caves Trail #1598**

North of Leavenworth off of Highway 207

For complete directions, see below

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

From Coles Corner, go five miles north on 207 and right on Chiwawa Loop Road (County Road #22); then turn left on Chiwawa River Road, (#6200); the trailhead is three and a half-miles north on the right. Follow the one-half mile trail along a bench overlooking a marshland off the Chiwawa River. Bird nesting and forest and marsh habitats can be observed. The access road is paved, with school bus parking and no restrooms.

### **Twin Lakes Trail #1503**

9 miles northwest of Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station on White River Road #6400 at Napeequa Crossing Campground

Contact: Lake Wenatchee Ranger District, (509) 763-3103

Follow the trail for one and a half miles to the beaver ponds. The ponds are surrounded by a marsh with cottonwood, cattails and abundant wildlife including spawning Sockeye in August and September. As this wetland is inside the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, groups are limited to 12 people per party. The last two miles of the road are unpaved.

### **Waterfront City Park**

Leavenworth

Contact: Leavenworth City Parks, (509) 548-5275

Waterfront Park, on the shores of the Wenatchee River, is primarily a cottonwood bottomland. Two small freshwater ponds located close to the river are actively used by waterfowl, beaver, otter, and mink. Gravel paths provide access to the shorelines.

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## **Clallam County**

### **Bogachiel State Park**

6 miles south of Forks

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 374-6356

The park is located six miles south of Forks on Highway 101, in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains. This area is seasonally flooded by the Bogachiel River, and contains gravel bars, young alders, cottonwoods, and many other types of brushy plants. The transition from small deciduous hardwoods to large coniferous trees -- including spruce, hemlock and fir -- is observable.

### **Bon Jon Pond**

10 miles off Highway 101 on Forest Service Road 28

Contact: Quilcene Ranger District, (360) 765-3368

Turn off Highway 101 onto Lords Lake Loop Road two miles north of Quilcene; turn left on Forest Service Road 28 at the lake. Bon Jon Pond, located just off the road, is a small, fluctuating beaver pond surrounded by a young stand of Douglas fir. The site has limited parking and no restrooms are available.

### **Clallam Bay Community Beach**

Clallam Bay, Highway 112

Contact: Clallam County Parks, (360) 452-7831

The public beach extends from the mouth of the Clallam River to a sand spit on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. There is a three-quarter mile trail along the river with a foot bridge to the beach. The restrooms are open from May through September.

### **Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge**

Off Highway 101, 5 miles northwest of Sequim

Contact: Refuge Manager, (360) 457-8451

The Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge encompasses the five and a half mile long Dungeness Spit which forms Dungeness Bay. An estuary, eel grass beds and salt marsh provide ample opportunities for observing wetland wildlife. The refuge is open during daylight hours only. Entrance fee is two dollars per family. Children under 16 enter free. Because of sensitive wildlife areas, no camping, firearms or pets are permitted.

#### **Salt Creek Recreation Area**

Camp Holden Road off Highway 112, near Joyce

Contact: Clallam County Parks, (360) 452-7831

The recreation area lies 15 miles west of Port Angeles on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and was the site of Fort Hayden, a World War II harbor defense facility. It has both sand and rock beaches with well-marked interpretive trails. Tide pools can be found on the rocky beach. The Salt Creek estuary provides an opportunity to observe bird and plant life. West of the creek is private land. A campground is available.

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## **Clark County**

#### **Beaver Marsh County Park**

End of NE 98th Avenue (Near I-205) in Vancouver, Washington

Contact: Clark County Parks, (360) 699-2467

Beaver Marsh is a 31 acre site located northeast of Vancouver. The park is a nature preserve that contains approximately five acres of marsh. Access is by a loop hiking trail. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

#### **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**

Ridgefield

Contact: Refuge Manager, (360) 887-4106

Columbia River refuge, consisting of 4,615 acres, has two wetland types; a natural floodplain (Carty Unit) and a canary grass marsh with winter food crops (River "S" Unit.) The Carty Unit has a two mile interpretive trail. The River "S" Unit has large winter concentrations of Canada geese, sandhill cranes, tundra swans and ducks. Interpretive kiosks are at both units. Day use only.

#### **Salmon Creek Greenway County Park**

NE 177th Street, 3 miles north of Vancouver

Contact: Clark County Parks, (360) 699-2467

The 390-acre Salmon Creek Greenway contains approximately 25 acres of wetlands and impounded water. The park also includes a swimming beach, a picnic area, and observation decks.

#### **Vancouver Lake County Park**

Highway 501, 2 miles west of Vancouver

Contact: Clark County Parks, (360) 699-2467

Vancouver Lake Park is a 234-acre site which contains approximately 25 acres of wetlands. These consist of swamp, slough, and marshlands. The developed portion of the park is about 20 acres in size, providing viewpoints and a beach area.

#### **Shillapoo-Vancouver Lowlands Wildlife Area**

2 miles north of Vancouver on Highway 501

Contact: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5, (360) 696-6211  
The diked area contains 432 acres of freshwater marsh and swamp bordering the Columbia River. Wildlife is abundant. Access is by road.

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## Columbia County

### **Camp W.T. Wooten State Park**

45 miles east of Dayton on Highway 12

Contact: Bob Tunell, (509) 843-3708

The park is a popular environmental learning center with trails, bridges, wildlife and wetlands. The park contains the Tucannan River, Donney Lake and other ponds, all with their associated wetlands. Use is heavy, so reserve early. State Parks gives priority to public school groups.

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## Cowlitz County

### **Seaquest State Park**

Exit 49 off I-5, 5 miles east of Castle Rock

Contact: Niel Masser, (360) 274-8633

The park is on the shore of Silver Lake, with its marshy fringes, wooded swamp and lily pads. The Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument Interpretive Center is adjacent to the park.

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## Ferry County

### **Bangs Mountain Auto Tour**

Contact: Kettle Falls Ranger Station, (509) 738-6111

A five mile scenic gravel road goes through Donnelson Draw and a one-half mile series of small ponds interspersed with beaver dams. Cedar and alder line their banks. The gravel road is not suitable for buses. There is limited parking along the way in pullouts. Call the Kettle Falls Ranger Station for more detailed directions.

### **Beaver Ponds**

On Highway 20, 12 miles west of Kettle Falls

Contact: Kettle Falls Rangers District, (509) 738-6111

This site includes a three-mile series of active beaver ponds along Sherman Creek. There is a trail with a bridge as well as access points along the road. Canyon Creek Campground is nearby. Restrooms and parking are at the campground.

### **Empire Lakes**

20 miles north of Republic on Forest service Road #2150

Contact: Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-3305

Empire Lakes boast over two acres of cattail marshes and willows. There is a boat ramp, but the wetland area can also be accessed by trail. The road is not suitable for buses. There are no restrooms.

### **Nine Mile Creek**

15 miles southeast of Republic on Forest service Road #2053

Contact: Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-3305

This is an area with beaver dams, willow, aspen, sedges, rushes and other aquatic

vegetation. The road is suitable for vans but not for buses. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

#### **Swan, Ferry and Long Lakes**

15 miles south of Republic on Forest Service Road #53

Contact: Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-3305

The lakes have fringe areas of wetlands vegetation. There are trails all around the lakes.

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### **Garfield County**

#### **W. T. Wooten Wildlife Area**

13 miles south of Dayton

Contact: Department Of Fish and Wildlife, Region 1, (509) 456-4082

The Tucannon River runs through marshy riparian zones containing cottonwood and dogwood. Camping and trails are on both sides of the river.

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### **Grant County**

#### **Crab Creek Wildlife Area**

3 miles east of Beverly

Contact: Department Of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

The Crab Creek Wildlife Area contains a variety of ecosystems including several cattail marshes. Access is from pullouts and parking lots along the road which follows the creek. The restrooms are primitive.

#### **Desert Wildlife Area**

3 miles south of I-90, 10 miles west of Moses Lake

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

Noted for its waterfowl concentrations, the Desert Wildlife Area consists of sand dune ponds with willows, bullrush, and cattails. At low elevations there are dune grasses; in upper elevations Russian Olive is predominant. Exercise caution during hunting season. Parking is limited. Restrooms are on the Dodson and Harris Road accesses.

#### **Gloyd Seeps Wildlife Area**

Between Stratford and Moses Lake

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

Marshy areas from Columbia River Irrigation Project and from Crab Creek total 10,100 acres. The area supports a wide variety of birds and wildlife.

#### **Lenore Lake Wildlife Area**

5 miles north of Soap Lake on Highway 17

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

Almost 9,000 acres in size, this lake provides year round fishing for cutthroat trout, and nesting habitat for waterfowl. Fringe wetlands and salt flats surround the lake.

#### **Potholes State Park**

670 O'Sullivan Dam Road near Warden

Contact: Park Manager, (509) 765-7271

The Potholes environment consists of sand dunes and willow and cattail-lined ponds. The park offers limited visual access to the wetland areas; boat access is preferable. Call ahead for information.

#### **Potholes Wildlife Area**

2 miles south of Moses Lake, on Sand Dunes Road

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

The Potholes Wildlife Area is an extensive wetland area with several hundred sand dune ponds that provide habitat for willow, bulrush and cattail. Exercise caution during hunting season and call for information. The restroom facilities are primitive.

#### **Quincy Wildlife Area**

8 miles south of Quincy on Whitetail Road

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

The area features shallow lakes with lake wetlands and associated wildlife. User-maintained trails surround the lakes. The area is closed from November through March.

#### **Seep Lakes Wildlife Area**

3 miles east of O'Sullivan Dam

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

This wildlife area covers 3,000 acres, and is composed of many small lakes formed from seepage from the potholes reservoir. The lakes range in size from 20 to 900 acres. They have accessible riparian zones and associated marshes. The area supports a variety of waterfowl.

#### **Steamboat Rock State Park**

Highway 155, 8 miles south of Grand Coulee

Contact: Park Manager, (509) 633-1304

Steamboat Rock State Park is located on a peninsula surrounded on three sides by Banks Lake. You will be able to find areas of cattail marsh and other wetland types in the park. It is best to call ahead for information. There are no fees for day-use.

#### **Stratford Wildlife Area**

Highway 28, 10 miles east of Soap Lake

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 2, (509) 754-4624

Geese, swans, and other waterfowl inhabit the marshy inlet to 300-acre Stratford Lake as well as its fringe wetlands. This reserve is closed to hunting, fishing and trapping. Call ahead for information and reservations.

#### **Sun Lakes State Park**

7 miles southwest of Coulee City on Highway 17

Contact: Bob Little, (509) 632-5583

The park contains a series of seven accessible lakes, all with wetland fringes. Camp Delaney, set on a Marsh area, is a popular environmental learning center with accommodations for overnight field trips. Make reservations for overnight stays well in advance.

#### **Winchester Wasteway Wildlife Area**

North of I-90, 14 miles west of Moses Lake

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624



A popular waterfowl hunting area during season, the Winchester Wasteway consists of many cattail and bulrush-lined ponds with some swampy areas. The area is accessible by trail and by canoe. Exercise caution during the hunting season; call ahead for information. Restrooms are available on the Dodson and Harris mad accesses.

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## **Grays Harbor County**

### **Chehalis Wildlife Area**

2 miles west of Elma on Schuewieler Road

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 249-4628

This area consists of 200 acres of marsh, ponds and abandoned farms. Bird and wildlife habitat is accessible by foot on a network of roads during the dry season. Restrooms are being developed. The area is open to bird hunters in the fall.

### **Grayland Beach State Park**

Highway 105, one mile south of Grayland

Contact: Park Ranger at Twin Harbor State Park, (360) 268-9717

A small freshwater pond was created by excavation for the development of camp sites at Grayland Beach State Park. Approximately two acres in size, its inhabitants include ducks, geese, stickleback fish and some land animals. Located 300 feet south from camp site #45, it is surrounded by a hiking trail that may be partially under water in the rainy season.

### **Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge**

West of Hoquiam

Contact: Nisqually Wildlife Refuge, (360) 753-9467

Approximately 200 acres of tidal mudflat and small, freshwater ponds can be found at Bowerman Basin. It is one of the most significant stop-over areas for migratory shorebirds; the best time for viewing birds is mid-April to mid-May. The area is visible from along its northern border on State Route 109. Restrooms are available from mid-April to mid-May. Park at the airport.

### **H-107 Unit**

Between Wynoochee Dam and Highway 101

Contact: Quinault Ranger District, (360) 288-2525

This eight acre sedge-hawthorn swamp is on the boundary between the Hoodspout and Quinault Ranger Districts in the Olympic National Forest. One hundred feet off the road are potholes left from blasting to create open water. There is a clear-cut on one side, and an old growth forest on the other. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **Johns River Wildlife Area**

17 miles west of Aberdeen on Highway 105

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 533-9335

This Wildlife Area has 1,200 acres of estuarine habitat, supporting a variety of waterfowl and wildlife. The wetlands are accessible by a series of bridges and a four-mile trail along a river dike.

### **Morrison Riverfront City Park**

Behind Wishkah Mall on the Chehalis River in Aberdeen

Contact: Aberdeen City Parks, (360) 533-4100

The park is located on the Chehalis River estuary with 3000 feet of mudflats.

Wilson Creek flows into the river on the north edge of the park. The marshy wetlands are accessible to the handicapped. Restrooms are being developed.

#### **Ocean City State Park**

Highway 115, 2 miles north of Ocean Shores

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 289-3553

The park occupies a forested area with large campground. There are trails to marshy wetlands and ponds. The park manager advises visitors to call ahead for information. No fees for day-use.

#### **Oyhut Wildlife Area**

2 miles from Ocean Shores on Oyhut Road

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 533-9335

The area consists of approximately 700 acres of sand dunes and salt water marshlands. It has paved road access and no restrooms.

#### **Quinault Loop Trail**

South Shore Road, Quinault

Contact: Quinault Ranger District, (360) 288-2525

A four-mile loop trail passes through an old growth cedar swamp about halfway through the loop. It is a unique public access wetland. Parking and restrooms are at the trailhead.

#### **Stewart's Memorial City Park**

End of "B" Street, Aberdeen

Contact: Aberdeen City Parks, (360) 533-4100

Stewart Creek runs through the park, surrounded by skunk cabbage and second growth spruce/hemlock forest. There is a one-mile trail loop with rough bridges. The restrooms are open in the summer.

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## **Island County**

#### **Camano Island State Park**

Exit 212 off of I-5, 10 miles southwest of Stanwood

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 387-3031

Point Lowell has a one-acre freshwater marsh with cattails and grasses located at the south end of the park near the boat launch area.

#### **Dugualla Bay**

5 miles south of Deception Pass, off Highway 20 on Sleeper Road

Contact: Department of Natural Resources, Northwest Region, (360) 856-0083

This area has two peat bogs, one-half acre and five acres in size. Boardwalks go into both bogs, which contain several species of carnivorous plants. Parking is limited; restrooms are being developed.

#### **Fort Ebey State Park**

8 miles southwest of Oak Harbor, off Highway 20

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 678-4636

Within the park is Pondilla Lake, which covers six acres and has a two-acre wetland. There are trails to the lake and along the wetland.

#### **Hoypus Point**

East of Deception Pass on Whidbey Island

Contact: Department of Natural Resources, Northwest Region, (360) 856-0083  
Within this area are three peat bogs, ranging from three to six acres in size. There is easy access but limited parking and no restrooms.

#### **Smith Farm**

Between Stanwood and Camano Island

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4, (206) 775-1311

A half-mile trail runs on top of the dike that separates salt marsh from freshwater marsh. The marshes provide habitat for winter raptors and are near a staging area for snow geese. There are some seasonal restrictions and no restrooms.

#### **Deception Pass State Park**

10 miles north of Oak Harbor on Highway 20

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 675-2417

The southwest side of Cranberry Lake is a freshwater marsh, separated from the salt water by a natural berm. There is also an overlook with an interpretive trail that explains the natural history of the sand dunes.

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### **Jefferson County**

#### **Anderson Lake State Park**

Anderson Lake Road off Highway 20, 9 miles south of Port Townsend

Contact: Park Ranger, Fort Worden State Park, (360) 385-4730

The park includes an undeveloped marsh area across the lake from the parking lot. There is also a one-mile trail loop.

#### **Dosewallips State Park**

Highway 101, south of Brinnon

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 796-4415

Dosewallips State Park, located on the Dosewallips River, has both fresh and saltwater wetlands. There is easy access to the Dosewallips River, with a trail leading through the estuarine wetlands to the beach on Hood Canal. Call ahead for information.

#### **Fort Flagler State Park**

North end of Marrowstone Island

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 385-1259

The park contains a variety of environments including high cliffs and wetlands, with a nature trail winding through part of the park. Military installation sites of local historical interest are along the top of the bluff. No fees for day use.

#### **Fort Worden State Park**

Northern limits of Port Townsend

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 385-4730

The park has recently acquired a freshwater wetland area that has been drained several times for agriculture. They hope to return the area to its natural state. It may provide an interesting place to witness wetland restoration.

#### **Gamm Creek**

8 miles off Highway 101 on Forest Service Road 2610

Contact: Quilcene Ranger District, (360) 765-3368

This salmon spawning creek is approximately nine miles up the Dosewallips River. The site includes three ponds created to enhance juvenile salmon overwintering

habitat. There is rough gravel road access, with stream crossings. There is better parking at Tunnel Creek trailhead. Call ahead for tours.

### **Irely Lake**

1 mile trail, end of North Fork Quinault Road

Contact: Quinault Ranger Station, (360) 288-2444

Within Olympic National Park, this small lake varies with the season from four to 20 acres. A trail spur follows the outlet creek to the lake. A marshy area surrounds the lake, as well as the outlet and inlet streams. Parking and restrooms are at the trailhead.

### **Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park**

12th Street and Sims Way, Port Townsend

Contact: Port Townsend City Parks, (360) 385-2294

This 80-acre park has over 50 acres of wetlands; 75 percent are open water and 25 percent are marsh. The lagoon is shallow and is brackish. Two and a half miles of trails wind through the park.

### **Oak Bay County Park**

Oak Bay Road, 1 mile South of Hadlock

Contact: Jefferson County Parks, (360) 385-2221

Two park roads offer access to Oak Bay County Park where you will find saltmarshes.

### **Seal Rock Campground**

2 miles north of Brinnon on Highway 101

Contact: Quilcene Ranger District, (360) 765-3368

This campground has approximately a half-mile of beach on the Hood Canal. The beach provides a good opportunity to observe waterfowl and also features a barrier-free interpretive trail. The campground remains open from May to November. Call ahead for interpretive tours. The site has limited parking, and restrooms are available.

### **Sink Lake**

10 miles from Highway 101 on Forest Service Road #2760

Contact: Quilcene Ranger District, (360) 765-3368

To find Sink Lake, turn right on Penney Creek Road, then take FS 27 to FS 2710.

Park at the Mount Townsend trailhead. After a quarter-mile, the trail goes by a shallow three-acre lake. This wetland within Olympic National Forest has a marshy inlet and old stands of hemlock and willow on the water's edge. The site has adequate parking at the trailhead.

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## **King County**

### **Arboretum Waterfront Nature Trail**

Lake Washington Park, University District, Seattle

Contact: Seattle City Parks, (206) 625-4671

The Arboretum Waterfront Nature Trail is a self-guiding interpretive trail with an observation platform for viewing the adjacent marsh. The trail hooks up with Foster Island and proceeds for approximately a half mile. No reservations are needed.

**Camelot Park**

South 294th Street and 39th Avenue South in Federal Way

Contact: King County Natural Resources, and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

The park contains wetlands with open water, cattail marshes and scrub forest. The property is undeveloped, but a few pathways exist around the edge of the wetland.

**Cougar Mountain Park**

Issaquah

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

With 2,000 acres and trails throughout, Cougar Mountain Park features a variety of wetlands, including springs, marshes, swamps and riparian zones. The Issaquah Alps Club has descriptions of trails as well as guided club trips.

**Discovery Park**

3801 West Government Way in Seattle

Contact: Park Supervisor, (206) 625-2173

Located in the northern portion of Discovery Park is the half-mile long Wolf Tree Nature Trail. This self-guiding trail follows a boardwalk as it winds its way over small streams and through a marshy area.

**Dumas Bay Park and Wildlife Sanctuary**

44th Avenue off Dash Point Road in Federal Way

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

This is an undeveloped park with five acres of marsh. The park provides access to the Puget Sound. No restrooms are available.

**Federation Forest State Park**

16 miles east of Enumclaw, Highway 410

Contact: Park Ranger, (206) 663-2207

In this natural area with its interpretive center, small creeks drain into the White River. The center is open from April to October. Call ahead for tours.

**Flaming Geyser State Park**

2.5 miles south of Black Diamond

Contact: Ralph Mast, (206) 931-3930

Adjacent to the Green River is a four acre bog with cattails that is accessible by a road that goes next to the wetland. (The flaming geyser is also of interest.)

**Jenkins Creek Park**

SE 267th and 184 Avenue SE in Kent

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

The park contains an open pond surrounded by wet meadow and forest. The site is undeveloped.

**Juanita Bay City Park**

NE 106th and Market Street in Kirkland

Contact: Kirkland City Parks, (206) 828-1217

Juanita Bay is a 65-acre undeveloped park, composed mostly of wetlands.

Features include a cattail marsh, a scrub-shrub wetland, and a beaver pond, accessible by means of an abandoned causeway. Tours are conducted the first Sunday of each month beginning at 1 pm.

**Kenmore Park (Rhododendron Park)**

68th N.E. and 170th in Bothell

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

A trail follows the Sammamish Slough through trees and rhododendrons, coming within 100 feet of the riverine wetlands.

**Lake Hills Greenbelt City Park**

Lake Hills, Bellevue

Contact: Parks-Resource Management, (206) 455-6855

A three-quarter mile long gravel trail goes through marshy wetlands within the park. Larsen Lake has a viewing platform and bridge. A trail goes near a blueberry farm and to Phantom Lake. Call ahead for interpretive tours.

**Lake Sammamish State Park**

1.5 miles northwest of Issaquah

Contact: Park Ranger, (206) 455-7010

Most of the wetlands in this area are on the north side of Issaquah Creek. The trail near the wetlands is not well maintained, but it improves toward the mouth of the creek.

**Lake Wilderness Park**

9 miles west of Kent, south of the Highway 18 and Highway 169 interchange

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

An abandoned railroad grade goes through the edge of Lake Wilderness Park. Within the park are open water wetlands.

**Licton Springs City Park**

North 97th and Ashworth in Seattle

Contact: Seattle City Parks, (206) 625-4671

Licton Springs is a six and a half acre park which has a natural spring and a marshy area visible from the boardwalk. It was used as a health spa by Native Americans and the early settlers, who felt the water and mud cured many ills.

**Marymoor Park**

6046 West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE in Redmond

Contact: King County Natural Resources Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

A trail at the headwaters of the Sammamish Slough goes through scrub-shrub willow and shallow marshes. A platform overlooks the marsh at the north end of the lake. The trails parallel Sammamish Slough riverine wetlands.

**May Creek Park**

I-405 E to Coal Creek Parkway in Renton

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

May Creek is a salmon spawning stream with no defined trail system, but access is possible on numerous paths. These pass through a riverine wetland and an upland forest. The park is an undeveloped area on either side of the stream, which lies in the bottom of a small ravine.

**Mercer Slough, Bellfields Nature Park**

South Bellevue; I-90 and Lake Washington

Contact: City Parks-Outdoor Recreation, (206) 455-6885

The slough feeds Lake Washington. A trail goes through marshes on boardwalks and through swamps with alder, dogwood and cottonwood trees. Call ahead for interpretive tours.

**Sammamish River City Park and County Trail**

102nd Avenue NE and East Riverside Drive in Bothell

Contact: Bothell Department of Community Development, (206) 486-8152

The Sammamish River Park is located on 33 acres south of the Sammamish River.

The Sammamish River Trail winds through the park's extensive wetlands which provide habitat for abundant wildlife. Access is from 102nd Avenue, south of the river.

**Seattle Aquarium**

Pier 59, Waterfront Park in Seattle

Contact: Seattle Aquarium, (206) 386-4300

The Seattle Aquarium, among its many exhibit, has a wetlands display in an

enclosed outdoor area. For program reservations and current fees, call 386-4329.

The hearing-impaired may call 386-4322.

**Soos Creek Park**

148th Avenue S.E. from 272nd to 192nd in Kent

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

This park covers a narrow area on either side of Soos Creek, an active salmon spawning stream. A six mile walking and biking trail follows the creek through cattail marshes, forested swamp, and wet hillsides covered with ferns and horsetail.

**Twin Ponds County Park**

1st N.E. and 155th (near I-5) in Seattle

Contact: King County Recreation Office, (206) 296-3466

The park contains an open-water pond and a cattail marsh. A walkway and a pier cross the marsh. The park is handicapped-accessible.

**Snoqualmie Valley Wildlife Area**

Between Monroe and Carnation

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4, (206) 775-1311

Along the Snoqualmie River, the area contains 1,622 acres of river front wetland. Some trails are developed.

**Wallace Swamp Creek Park**

68th Avenue and N.E. 195th in Seattle

Contact: King County Natural Resources and Parks Division, (206) 296-4232

Wallace Swamp is a neighborhood park with a path and bridge over the creek going through tall grass, trees and undeveloped river front wetlands with low banks. There is neither parking nor restrooms.

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**Kitsap County****Kitsap Lake City Park**

Bremerton

Contact: Bremerton City Parks, (360) 478-5305

Kitsap Lake Park, 32 acres in size, has 27 acres of wetlands on site. At present, public access to the wetlands is limited, but future plans include an interpretive trail. Call in advance for interpretive tours.

**Scenic Beach State Park**

12 miles northwest of Bremerton

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 830-5079

This park contains a small, muddy bottom lagoon surrounded by salt grass. The park provides beach access. Call ahead for tours.

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## Kittitas County

### **Gladmar County Park**

Exit 101 off of I-90 in Thorp

Contact: Kittitas County Parks, (509) 962-6811

The park is west of Ellensburg near the Thorp interchange, and has several small ponds adjacent to the Yakima River. This is a marshy area with no developed trails, but hard ground makes accessibility good. No camping.

### **Keechelus Flats**

Stampede exit off of I-90 on Road #5480

Contact: Cle Elum Ranger District, (509) 674-4411

Old logging roads run throughout this cedar-dominated swamp south of Keechelus Lake. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **Lake Easton State Park**

1 mile west of Easton, near I-90

Contact: Tim Schmidt, (509) 656-2230

Lake Easton is a reservoir for Yakima River irrigation. The water level fluctuates and the small wetland areas change seasonally. Call ahead for tours.

### **L. T. Murray Wildlife Area**

State Route 821 (Yakima Canyon Highway)

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 3, (509) 575-2740

Trails from the mouth of Umtanum Creek go six or seven miles upstream through small marshy areas and riparian wetlands with beaver. Call for reservations.

### **Swamp Lake**

Off I-90 near Crystal Spring Campground

Contact: Cle Elum Ranger District, (509) 674-4411

Swamp Lake is located a half mile off I-90 and a quarter mile from Crystal Spring Campground. The large wet meadows and nearby coniferous forest support a variety of wildlife, including beavers. Parking and restrooms are at the campground.

### **Taylor Swan**

Turtle Town exit, 1.5 miles off I-90

Contact: Cle Elum Ranger District, (509) 674-4411

The southwest corner of Lake Kachess is wooded, supporting cedar and hemlock trees. Trails provide access to the edge of a 100-acre wet meadow near the cedar swamp. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

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## Klickitat County

### **Brooks Memorial State Park**

Sadis Pass, 15 miles north of Goldendale

Contact: John Scarola, (509) 773-5007

Within the park is a small stream that backs up into beaver ponds. There are



trails throughout, and an environmental learning center for overnight stays. The site is popular for youth-oriented activities. Make reservations for use of overnight facilities.

#### **Goose Lake**

15 minutes from the town of Trout Lake

Contact: Mount Adams Ranger District, (509) 395-2501

Goose Lake is a 52 acre lake with trails on one side. Beaver and osprey activity is common. It is adjacent to major lava beds and coniferous forest. Campsites are nearby.

#### **Trout Lake**

1 mile north of the town of Trout Lake

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 696-6211

Trout Lake is a shallow lake comprising 25 acres of open water in the spring and only seven acres in the summer. A road with vantage points encircles the site. Parking is limited and no restrooms are available.

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### **Lewis County**

#### **Bear Prairie**

12 miles north of Packwood off State Creek Road

Contact: Packwood Ranger District, (360) 494-5515

Bear prairie contains a 25 acre marsh which supports a small beaver population. Drainage was attempted about 75 years ago but it failed. The wetland is close the road.

#### **Cannon Road Wetland**

2 miles from Packwood on Cannon Road

Contact: Packwood Ranger District, (360) 494-5515

This is a natural area of sloughs located behind forest service buildings. These wetlands support otter and waterfowl, with elk also frequenting the area. No restrooms are on site.

#### **Cowlitz Mitigation Project**

Between Highway 12 and the Cowlitz River Reservoirs

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5, (360) 696-6211

The wetlands are associated with Riffe Lake, Mayfield Lake and their river tributaries. These consist of both enhancement projects and natural wetlands. Access is off Highway 12. Parking and restrooms are at the adjacent Tacoma City Light Park.

#### **Schaefer County Park**

2 miles north of Centralia on Highway 507

Contact: Lewis County Parks, (360) 748-9121

The park contains riparian wetlands associated with the Skookumchuck River. Half the park has trails which pass through alder and vine maple forests near the river and its backwaters. River-associated wildlife includes muskrat and beaver.

#### **South County Regional Park**

Ray Road off Highway 505 in Toledo

Contact: Lewis County Parks, (360) 748-9121

This park covers 36 acres adjacent to the Cowlitz River. A 19-acre pond

supporting wetland vegetation, wildlife and birds has formed in an old gravel pit on the property. The park is new and presently undeveloped, although there is a trail around the pond. Parking and restrooms are being developed.

#### **Tower Rock Pond**

1 mile west of the Cispus Learning Center, near Randle

Contact: Randle Ranger District, (360) 497-7565

North of Road 76 is a natural beaver dam site. It forms a three-acre wetland, supporting waterfowl and fish. Parking and restrooms are at a nearby campground.

#### **Woods Creek Pond**

3 miles south of Randle off Road #25, across from the Woods Creek Information Center

Contact: Randle Ranger District, (360) 497-7565

Woods Creek Pond is an old beaver pond containing cattail and snags. Another wetland area, Hourglass Pond, lies on the dirt road 400 feet west of Woods Creek Pond. Both have road access, but limited parking and no restrooms.

#### **Yellowjacket Pond**

Near Cispus Learning Center, Randle

Contact: Randle Ranger District, (360) 497-7565

Yellowjacket Pond is a filled-in gravel pit; below this is a ten-acre wetland area with cattails. The area has paved road access. Handicap accessibility and a trail system are still being developed.

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## **Mason County**

#### **Harvey Rendsland State Park**

2.5 miles west of Tahuya

Contact: Washington State Parks, Region 5, (360) 931-3907

The park is located on the north shore of Hood Canal at the mouth of Rendsland Creek. Approximately five acres of wetlands include a marsh and a seasonal freshwater stream.

#### **Pine Lake**

30 miles off Highway 101 on Forest Service Road #2361-210

Contact: Hood Canal Ranger District, (360) 877-5254

Less than five acres in size, Pine Lake is encircled by a number of trails. The lake is surrounded by a combination of grass and old growth forest, with an accumulation of downed wood at the outlet. Several other wetlands lie near the road to Pine Lake; inquire at the ranger station. No restrooms.

#### **Potlatch State Park**

1 mile south of Potlatch on Highway 101

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 877-5361

The park encompasses mud and saltgrass tideflats on the northwest side of the Skokomish River estuary.

#### **Mary E. Theler Wetlands Trail**

Behind the Theler Center directly off Highway 3 in Belfair, North Mason County. Trails provide access to saltmarsh where the Union River flows into Hood Canal.

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## Okanogan County

### **Alta Lake State Park**

2 miles southwest of Pateros off Highway 153

Contact: Mike Nickerson, (509) 923-2473

Alta Lake sits in a box canyon and has very small marshy areas. A small pond is adjacent to the park. Call ahead for interpretive tours.

### **Beaver Canyon**

7 miles north of Bonapart

Contact: Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-2186

This site contains a series of three lakes, with several square miles of wetlands between them. A paved county road follows the edge of the wetlands and lakes, with fishing trails running around the lakes. A campground is nearby.

### **Long Swamp**

Near Loomis on Forest Service Road #39

Contact: Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-2186

To find Long Swamp, travel north two and a half miles from Loomis; turn left at the sign for Touts Coulee and follow Road 39 for 20 miles until you see the swamp parallel the road. Moose, bog lemmings, lynx and various butterflies frequent the swamp. It also hosts numerous rare and sensitive plants. There are many other wetlands in this area called "the Meadows" call the Tonasket Ranger District for more information and directions.

### **Corner Butte Area**

10 miles west of Republic

Contact: Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-2186

This area contains a one-acre open body of water with two acres of associated marsh. One can drive to the edge of the wetland. No restrooms.

### **Pearrygin Lake State Park**

5 mile northeast of Winthrop off Highway 20

Contact: Ted Smith, (509) 996-2370

The irrigation lake backs up in the spring, creating seasonal wetlands. The lake is part of the Chewuch Irrigation District. Call ahead for interpretive tours.

### **Sinlahekin Wildlife Area**

Off Highway 97, 3 miles south of Loomis

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 223-3358

The 14,000 acre Sinlahekin Wildlife area has beaver ponds, impoundments and marshlands. It features open land with easy access on undeveloped trails.

Primitive campsites are along Sinlahekin Creek. Call ahead for interpretive tours.

### **Summit Lake**

10 miles east of Oroville

Contact: Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-2186

Two acres of marshy wetlands are associated with Summit Lake. Access is by a National Forest road which runs next to the lake.

### **Wells Wildlife Area**

3 miles downstream from Bridgeport

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, (509) 754-4624

This area encompasses three major freshwater drainages: Indian Dan Canyon,

Foster Creek and Central Ferry Canyon. All have assorted wetlands and riparian wetlands. The area has undeveloped trails with open land and easy access. Call ahead for reservations.

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## **Pacific County**

### **Fort Canby State Park**

2 miles southwest of Ilwaco

Contact: Washington State Parks, Region 1, (360) 753-7143

Fort Canby is a 1,700 acre park where the Columbia River meets the Pacific Ocean. It offers four trails which wind through the forests and headlands. Marsh, swamp, saltflat, and tidal creek areas can be found here. Migratory birds are often seen on the beaches.

### **Leadbetter Point State Park**

Stackpole Road, 3 miles north of Oysterville

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 642-3078

Located at the northern tip of the Long Beach Peninsula, this state park offers a unique blend of natural areas, including dunes, ponds, and marshes. It is best to call ahead for information. No fees for day-use.

### **Palix River Access Area**

1/2 mile south of Palix River Bridge off Highway 101

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 533-9335

An interpretive sign is in a pullout off the east side of the highway, from which the saltflats at the mouth of the Palix River can be viewed. Travel west on the nearby Bay Center Dike loop road to view a variety of other wetland types. No trails or restrooms.

### **Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Lewis Unit**

4 miles east of Long Beach on Jeldness Road

Contact: Refuge Manager, (360) 484-3482

This refuge unit has freshwater marshes at the south end of the bay which provide habitat for numerous waterfowl.

### **Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Reikkola Unit**

2 miles east of Long Beach on Yeaton Road

Contact: Refuge Manager, (360) 484-3482

The gravel road ends at a field where you can walk to wetlands. A good example of a diked tideland, this area provides feeding areas for shorebirds and waterfowl. Call ahead to check for seasonal closure.

### **Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Leadbetter Point Unit**

End of Stackpole Road, Oysterville

Contact: Refuge Manager, (360) 484-3482

This site offers a look at a variety of wetland types: marshes, swamps, saltflats and tidal creeks.

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## **Pend Oreille County**

### **Boundary Lake**

At the custom station, 12 miles north of Metaline Falls

Contact: Sullivan Lake Ranger Station, (509) 446-2681

The shallow lake has been taken over by vegetation including willow and cattail. Evergreens surround the lake which has no inlet or outlet. Restrooms are in the custom station.

### **Mill Pond**

7 miles east of Metaline Falls

Contact: Sullivan Lake Ranger Station, (509) 446-2681

The pond is one mile from the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station. At the east end of the lake where Sullivan Creek flows in is a marsh. Elk use this area as their wintering habitat. Mule Pasture, one half mile from Mill Pond, has a beaver population.

### **Panhandle Park**

30 miles north of Newport on LeClerc Road

Contact: Newport Ranger District, (206) 447-3129

A Forest Service campground road runs by this one-acre pond with willow, aspen, cattail and sedge. Waterfowl, birds, and deer are common. The water level fluctuates with the seasons. A campground is on the river.

### **Parker Lake**

25 miles north of Newport, 4 miles off Highway 20

Contact: Newport Ranger District, (509) 447-3129

This site is a shallow 50-acre marsh with willow, cattail and sedge. The area is an active beaver pond, with bird life and a coniferous forest surrounding the wetland. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **Bartlett Pond**

10 miles north of Newport, 7 miles from Highway 20 on County Road #2022

Contact: Newport Range District, (509) 447-3129

Bartlett Pond is an old 20-acre beaver pond with cattails and willow, providing habitat for elk, waterfowl, and other wildlife. The area is surrounded by coniferous forest. A road runs halfway around the lake. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **Brown's Lake**

19 miles north of Newport off LeClerc Road

Contact: Newport Ranger District, (509) 447-3129

Grasses and willow, cedar and hemlock trees grow in two acres of wetland on the east side of the lake. The west side of the lake supports grass and willow, as well as waterfowl, moose and deer. A campground is on the lake.

### **Pioneer Park**

2.5 miles north of Newport

Contact: Newport Range District, (509) 447-3129

Pioneer Park is on a dammed section of the Pend Oreille River. Associated wetlands provide habitat for cottonwood, grasses, waterfowl, birds, and beaver. A campground is on the river.

### **South Skookum Lake**

19 miles north of Newport

Contact: Newport Range District, (509) 447-3129

There is a campground on this 70-acre lake as well as a surrounding trail. The

inlet to the lake has a five-acre wetland with willow and sedge, providing habitat for moose, fish, deer and waterfowl.

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## **Pierce County**

### **Andy Anderson Park**

Eckenstam-Johnson Road and Sandberg Road on Anderson Island

Contact: Eleanor Connolly, (206) 884-4457

Andy Anderson Park, approximately 120 acres in size, contains about 20 acres of marshland, bog and creek. The area is used by heron and other wildlife. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **China Lake Nature Area**

South 19th and Bennett in Tacoma

Contact: Nature Center Manager, (206) 591-6439

The area comprises 20 acres of undeveloped freshwater ponds with open water and cattail marsh communities. A proposed nature study site will include trails. Restrooms are planned.

### **Dash Point State Park**

5 miles northeast of Tacoma on Highway 509

Contact: Park Ranger, (206) 593-2206

A small stream and associated wetland run through the park with a trail along side them. Call ahead for tours.

### **Farrell's Marsh Natural Area**

South end of Chamber's Street in Steilacoom

Contact: Town of Steilacoom, (206) 481-1076

Farrell's Marsh is a 64-acre wildlife refuge in the town of Steilacoom. Access is currently by trails. Park at the end of Chamber's Street. Please call ahead for information. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms on site.

### **Fort Steilacoom County Park**

8714 87th Avenue SW, Tacoma

Contact: Pierce County Parks, (206) 593-4176

This 342 acre park includes Waughop Lake, with wetlands and trails. The area is mostly undeveloped.

### **Lincoln Street Marsh**

Near Lincoln Street Bridge and Puyallup River, Tacoma

Contact: Port of Tacoma, (206) 383-5841

This area is an estuary created as mitigation for the Port of Tacoma. It consists of almost ten acres of created marsh with salt and fresh water habitat on the banks on the Puyallup River. A dike was breached and the areas excavated behind it and planted with wetland vegetation.

### **Nature Center at Snake Lake**

1919 South Tyler in Tacoma

Contact: Nature Center Manager, (206) 591-6439

This area has two and a half miles of self-guiding nature trails through and over shallow marsh and swamp communities. The trail is handicapped-accessible for the first half mile. An interpretive center has wetlands educational programs for a

wide variety of ages and special needs. Call ahead for program and tour information.

**Penrose Point State Park**

3 miles north of Longbranch via Highway 302

Contact: Park Ranger, (206) 884-2514

The park contains brushy wetlands with skunk cabbage and salmonberry. There is an interpretive trail. Call ahead for guided walks.

**Riverside County Park**

Riverside Road and 78th Street in Sumner

Contact: Pierce County Parks, (206) 593-4176

This park is mostly undeveloped, and contains a creek which empties into the Puyallup River.

**Seeley Lake County Park**

100th and Bridgeport in Tacoma

Contact: Pierce County Parks, (206) 593-4176

Seeley Lake is a partial peat bog with cattails and willows on the fringes. The water level fluctuates with the seasons. A trail is being developed around the lake. There are also several other ponds within the area.

**Spanaway County Park**

14905 Gus G. Breseman Road South, in Spanaway

Contact: Pierce County Parks, (206) 593-4176

The park is 225 acres in size with some undeveloped areas of lake wetlands. Trails provide access to the majority of the area.

**Swan Creek County Park**

West Pioneer and Waller Roads, Tacoma

Contact: Pierce County Parks, (206) 593-4176

This 40-acre park contains some cattail ponds and a marshy area near the creek. It is mostly undeveloped, featuring only a few trails.

**Wapato Lake**

South 68th and Sheridan Avenue, Tacoma

Contact: Nature Center Manager, (206) 591-6439

Associated with the lake is a wetland that filters incoming water at the inlet of the lake.

**West Hylebos Natural Area State Park**

5 miles north of Tacoma on 348th near Saint Francis Hospital

Contact: Bob Togstad, (206) 593-2206

The site features a spring-fed bog which is crossed by a trail and bridge. An interpretive center is under construction. Call ahead for interpretive walks.

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## **San Juan County**

**American Camp**

American Camp Road, 6 miles south of Friday Harbor, San Juan Island

Contact: National Park Service, (360) 378-2240

This historic park has about 150 acres of wetlands. These consist primarily of

marshes and pools, and include a series of three lagoons which support a large number of birds. An interpretive trail covers part of the area.

#### **Moran State Park**

Orcas Island, between Eastsound and Olga

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 376-2326

Three-quarters of the way up Mount Constitution at 1,000 feet of elevation is ten-acre Summit Lake. It is almost 90 percent wetland with cattails, marsh grasses, and some open water.

#### **Spencer Spit State Park**

5 miles southeast of the Ferry Terminal on Lopez Island

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 468-2251

The salt marsh lagoon in the day use area at the park is home to many forms of aquatic life and sea and shore birds. It is best to call ahead for information. No fees for day-use.

#### **Stuart Island State Park**

Boat access only, Northwest San Juans

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 378-2044

Reed Harbor has a tree-covered natural berm that separates part of the harbor, turning it into a marshland with salt-tolerant vegetation. The wetlands on the island are accessible by trails.

#### **Sucia Island State Park**

Boat access only, North San Juans

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 378-2044

Located on an island with boat-only access, Fossil Bay has a marsh area separated from the open water by a natural berm. The wetland, as well as the rest of the island, is accessible by trails.

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## **Skagit County**

#### **Anacortes City Forest Lands**

Anacortes

Contact: Anacortes City Parks, (360) 293-1918

The Anacortes City Forest Lands are host to a variety of wetlands, accessible by a network of trails. For information on the wetlands and educational programs available through the city, contact the Forest Lands Manager for the City of Anacortes.

#### **Anacortes Ferry Terminal**

Anacortes

Contact: Anacortes City Parks, (360) 293-1918

Park in the ferry passenger parking lot and walk down to the wetland and beach in Ship Harbor, immediately east of the terminal. Cattails and other wetland plants may be seen here as well as a variety of birds.

#### **Padilla Bay County Parks Hiking Trail**

2 miles South of Padilla Bay Nature Center

Contact: Skagit County Parks, (360) 366-9414

This two and half mile trail on a salt water dike has farmland on one side and estuary mudflat on the other. A crushed limestone hiking and biking trail is



established, and interpretive signs are present. It is partially handicapped-accessible. Parking is at designated lots only.

### **Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**

1043 Bayview-Edison Road, Mount Vernon

Contact: Sharon Riggs, (360) 428-1558

Padilla Bay is a large intertidal estuary with extensive eelgrass-covered mudflats. The Breazeale Interpretive Center provides an opportunity for education, research, and hands-on learning about estuarine ecosystems. Call for more information and reservations.

### **Pomona Grange County Park**

8 miles north of Burlington on Highway 99

Contact: Skagit County Parks, (360) 336-9414

This used to be called Friday Creek Park. It contains 15 acres of nature hiking trails, large cedar and spruce, vine maple, salmonberry and skunk cabbage. Interpretive signs are being developed. Parking is limited.

### **Sharpe County Park**

Rosario Road near Deception Parks

Contact: Skagit County Parks, (360) 366-9414

This park contains an undeveloped eight-acre swamp-marsh. A trail skirts the east and south edges on its way to a high bluff. The wetlands were drained about 100 years ago for agriculture but are now in cattails, spirea, willows and sedge. Restrooms are in place from April to September.

### **Sibley Marsh**

15 miles southeast of Marblemount on Cascade Road

Contact: Mount Baker Ranger District, (360) 856-5700

On the east side of the Cascade River is a ten-acre pond-marsh ecosystem of cattails, rushes and beaver habitat surrounded by coniferous and deciduous forests. Be careful not to disturb bird nesting habitat. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

### **Skagit Wildlife Area**

Mann Road, 5 miles west of Conway

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4, (360) 775-1311

The Skagit Delta is one of the most important waterfowl area in western Washington. The Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains several access areas, with trails and a covered open-air classroom. Avoid the hunting season (roughly October through mid-January). September and late January to April are the best times for waterfowl observation. Maps are available. Call ahead for information.

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## **Skamania County**

### **Black Creek Swamp**

10 miles northeast of the Wind River Ranger Station

Contact: Wind River Ranger District, (360) 427-5171

This is a Wildlife Special Area with sedge, cattails and open water. It is accessible by a well maintained gravel road.

### **Coal Creek Swamp**

3 miles north of the Wind River Ranger Station

Contact: Wind River Ranger Station, (360) 427-5171

Two 40-acre swamps, associated with the Wind River, provide abundant bird nesting habitat. The site is undeveloped, but interpretive materials and a trail system are being planned. The site has limited parking and no restrooms.

### **Spencer Meadow**

36 miles from Cougar on Road #93

Contact: Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, (360) 247-5473

A stream runs through these 350 acres of wet meadows which are populated with sedges and cottongrass. There is also a long, narrow 3,400 foot elevation lake.

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## **Snohomish County**

### **Beaver Lake Trail**

12 miles southeast of Darrington

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

This two-mile trail on the Sauk river crosses several beaver ponds. This is a good place to observe beaver pond succession. There is parking at both ends of the trail.

### **Fortson Pond**

6 miles west of Darrington on Fortson Pond Road

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

A couple of two and five acre ponds are surrounded by alder forest. They vary in depth from ten to 30 feet and have cattails and other wetland vegetation growing along the shore.

### **Gold Basin Campground**

2 miles east of Old Verlot Ranger Station

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

Across the road from the campground is a two-acre millpond surrounded by mature conifer forest. An interpretive trail is planned.

### **Hyachuck Pond**

4 miles southeast of Darrington

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

At the mouth of Hyachuck creek is a half-acre pond located in the old river channel. It provides rearing habitat for wild coho salmon. The unimproved roads are not appropriate for school buses but are suitable for vans.

### **Ice Caves Trail**

30 miles south of Darrington on the Mountain Loop Highway

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

A short distance toward the hanging ice fields, the trail goes through several beaver ponds, some of which are active. The trail is well maintained, and provides easy access to the site. There is paved road access, with good parking. Restrooms are at the trail head.

### **Jennings Memorial City Park**

7027 51st Avenue N.E., Marysville

Contact: Marysville City Parks and Recreation Department, (360) 659-3005

Jennings Memorial Park is the site of a small artificial pond, with Allan Creek running through the park. A nature path surrounds the twenty-two acre park,

which also offers a petting zoo in the summer. The Jennings Park Barn can be rented for groups of up to 50.

### **Meadowdale Beach County Park**

Between Edmonds and Lynnwood

Contact: Snohomish County Parks, (206) 339-1208

A swift stream runs through a gulch that has been reclaimed with weirs and log drops. A one and a quarter mile trail follows the stream down to the salt water beach. The gulch provides a good opportunity to view erosion from storm drain runoff.

### **Monte Cristo Lake**

24 miles southeast of Darrington

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

Near Barlow Pass, a wide part of the South Fork of the Skagit River is filling in and becoming a wet willow meadow. There are plans for an interpretive center. The site has limited parking and no restrooms.

### **Old Sauk Trail**

5 miles southeast of Darrington, south side of Sauk Road

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

A 2.2 mile trail parallels the Sauk river and crosses several beaver ponds which act as rearing habitat for juvenile Coho salmon. The trail also crosses some tributaries with riparian zones. There is parking at both ends of the trail. Clearcreek Campground is a half-mile away with restrooms.

### **Old Verlot Ranger Station Pond**

299 yards east of the station

Contact: Darrington Ranger District, (360) 436-1155

The pond consists of one acre of shallow open water with fringe vegetated areas. It features spruce snags, mature spruce and hemlock forest. This wetland was created by the alteration in water drainage caused by the construction of a railroad grade in 1915.

### **Scriber Lake City Park**

5322 198th Street SW, in Lynnwood

Contact: Lynnwood City Parks, (206) 775-1971

Scriber Lake Park is an 18 acre natural site with a three acre peat bog. Trails surround the bog, with interpretive signs that explain the history of the area and the existing environmental conditions.

### **Silver Creek County Park**

Bothell-Everett Highway and I-405

Contact: Snohomish County Parks, (206) 339-1208

This nine-acre neighborhood park contains three acres of wetlands. A bridge crosses the stream and accesses the associated wetlands. No restrooms are at the site.

### **Union Oil Marsh City Park**

State Route 104 and Dayton Street, Edmonds

Contact: Edmonds City Parks, (206) 775-2525

The park contains approximately 23 acres of slightly saline marsh, and features a small viewing platform with two interpretive signs. A path around the marsh is planned for the future. A Beach Ranger Program is available; call for information.

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## Spokane County

### **Bear Lake County Park**

Highway 2, 15 miles north of Spokane

Contact: Spokane County Parks, (509) 456-4730

This 40-acre lake has lily pads and willows at each end, with a surrounding trail. Call ahead for reservations.

### **Little Spokane River Natural Area**

Near Long Lake, south of Cheney

Contact: Riverside State Park, (509) 456-3964

This area is part of the Scenic River program, and contains 1,353 acres of marsh. From the interpretive trails, one can observe beaver, turtles, blue herons, and lily pads. There is a canoe launch site for boat access. Brochures are available. Call ahead for reservations.

### **Southeast Liberty Lake**

Lakeside Road, Liberty Lake

Contact: Spokane County Parks, (509) 456-4730

The lake and its associated wetlands provide 180 acres of marshland habitat, supporting waterfowl and other birds. There is an observation platform. Access is by trail, and restrooms are open during the summer.

### **Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge**

South 26010 Smith Road, Cheney

Contact: Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, (509) 235-4723

Within the refuge, 2,200 acres of land are open for public use. These contain two dozen wetlands from five to 200 acres in size. Some sites are designated for environmental education programs. Access is by three different trail systems. Workshops are available for teachers. Handicapped-accessible.

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## Stevens County

### **Dominion City Park**

1118 S.E. park Drive, Colville

Contact: Colville City Parks, (509) 684-3086

Dominion Park covers almost two acres, approximately one third of which is a bog. A pathway crossing a small creek offers access to the wetland area. An interpretive trail is being developed.

### **Little Pend Oreille Wildlife Area**

13 miles east of Colville off Highway 20

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 1, (509) 456-4082

This Wildlife Area covers 40,900 acres, with the Little Pend Oreille River running through it. It also contains a few lakes with fringe wetlands, supplying habitat for beaver and muskrat. Since this is an undeveloped area, access is by primitive roads, which are only suitable for walking.

### **Meadow Creek Wetlands**

27 miles north of Colville off Aladdin Highway

Contact: Colville Ranger Station, (509) 684-4557

This 35 acre wetland is accessible by county road. It was a series of beaver

ponds, but was dammed by a previous owner. Now there are several ponds and creek meadows, supporting moose, waterfowl, fish, and other wildlife.

#### **North Mill Wetlands**

18 miles northeast of Colville

Contact: Colville Ranger Station, (509) 684-4557

This is a long series of beaver ponds, totalling roughly 65 acres. The site supports a variety of wildlife and waterfowl. Access is by a well maintained gravel road which runs along the wetlands. There are no developed trails.

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### **Thurston County**

#### **Black River**

2 miles south of Little Rock

Contact: Department of Natural Resources, Central Region, (360) 753-3410

This area is one of the largest freshwater wetlands in Western Washington, but only some of it is accessible by foot. A canoe allows further exploration of the slow moving river with its aquatic vegetation and swampy, wide margins. There is a canoe launch on Little Rock Road.

#### **Burfoot County Park**

Boston Harbor Road, 6 miles north of Olympia

Contact: Thurston County Parks, (360) 786-5595

Burfoot County Park is located on Budd Inlet, six miles north of Olympia. Nature trails wind through a second growth coniferous forest and out to a gravel beach and creek estuary. An interpretive trail is also on site. Call for group reservations.

#### **Capitol Lake Park**

Southwest of downtown Olympia

Contact: Olympia City Parks, (360) 753-8380

Capitol Lake is the dammed and dredged estuary of the Deschutes River. There is a freshwater wetland at the south end. Paved and gravel trails run three quarters of the way around the lake.

#### **McLane Creek Nature Trail**

Southwest of Olympia, three miles out Delphi Road

Contact: Department of Natural Resources, Central Region, (360) 753-2400

A loop trail with interpretive signs goes around a ten acre active beaver pond.

McLane Creek, with its chum salmon run, flows next to the pond.

#### **Millersylvania State Park**

10 miles south of Olympia

Contact: Park Ranger, (360) 753-1519

Millersylvania Lake has associated beaver ponds and wetlands. Much of the park is heavily wooded and accessible by a good trail system.

#### **Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge**

100 Brown Farm Road, 10 miles east of Olympia next to I-5

Contact: Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, (360) 753-9467

Vast saltwater and freshwater wetland areas can be found at the Nisqually River estuary, and are easily observed from the many trails in the refuge. Staff will assist teachers in planning for a field trip and provide resources for study. Call for

information and school group reservations. There is a fee. (Schools are exempt with reservations.)

#### **Priest Point City Park**

2 miles north of Olympia on East Bay Drive

Contact: Olympia City Parks, (360) 753-8380

The park occupies several hundred acres on the eastern shore of Budd Inlet.

Trails provide access to mud flats and beaches on both sides of the Ellis Creek estuary.

#### **Scatter Creek Wildlife Area**

Off Case Road, 2 miles north of Grand Mound

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, (360) 533-9335

A slow moving stream runs through formerly cultivated fields before reaching its associated swamp and marsh. Trails are being developed. Call for more information.

#### **Tumwater Historical Park**

Across from the Old Brewery off I-5, Tumwater

Contact: Tumwater City Parks, (360) 754-4180

This 17 acre park lies below Tumwater Falls on the Deschutes River. A gravel trail runs through a cattail marsh that forms as the river spreads out into the remains of the Deschutes River estuary before reaching Capitol Lake.

#### **Watershed City Park**

Henderson Boulevard, South Olympia

Contact: Olympia City Parks, (360) 753-8380

Originally Olympia's supply of drinking water, Moxlie Creek with its associated wetlands flows through the park. A one and a half mile loop trail goes through the park. The stream has been stocked with salmon fingerlings.

#### **Yauger City Park**

9th and Cooper Point Road, Olympia

Contact: Olympia City Parks, (360) 753-8380

Yauger Park is an established surface water retention facility for the surrounding developed areas. A nature trail loop winds through the wetlands in the northern portion of the park, providing interpretive information on the flora and fauna.

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### **Wahkiakum County**

#### **Columbia Whitetail Deer Refuge**

In Cathlamet off Highway 4

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Columbia Whitetail Refuge, (360) 795-3915

This refuge on the Columbia River contains endangered Columbia whitetail deer and a herd of elk. Access is by trails through wooded areas and backwater sloughs.

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### **Walla Walla County**

#### **Fort Walla Walla City Park**

Myra Road between Rose and Dalles Road, in Walla Walla

Contact: Walla Walla City Parks, (509) 527-4527

This 208 acre park is managed jointly with the Blue Mountain Audubon Society. It has 70 acres of fenced-off natural area and a one and three-quarter mile interpretive trail with self-guiding numbered stations. A stream runs through the site, with a spring flowing into the ponds and marshlands.

#### **McNary National Wildlife Refuge**

1 mile east of Pasco on Highway 395

Contact: Refuge Manager, (509) 547-4942

This 3,600 acre refuge is one mile from the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Waterfowl nesting areas and wildlife can be seen from the interpretive trail around the marsh. Call ahead for tours.

#### **Pioneer City Park**

Alder and Division Streets, Walla Walla

Contact: Walla Walla City Parks, (509) 527-4527

Five ponds and two spring-fed streams can be found in this 58 acre park. It boasts a popular waterfowl aviary with interpretive material and tours.

#### **Rooks Park**

5 miles east of Walla Walla on U.S. 12

Contact: Project Supervisor, (509) 522-6863

Rooks Park is a 25-acre developed park adjacent to Mill Creek. There is paved road access and a bike trail.

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### **Whatcom County**

#### **Baker Lake**

15 miles off Highway 20 on Forest Service Roads

Contact: Mount Baker Ranger District, (360) 856-5700

Near Baker Lake are extensive beaver ponds which provide habitat for nesting waterfowl and other wildlife. Parking is limited, and restrooms are located at the various campgrounds in the area.

#### **Birch Bay State Park**

8 miles south of Blaine

Contact: Mike Zimmerman, (360) 371-2800

Within the park is Terrell Marsh, a 30-acre freshwater marshland with some tidal influence. A trail runs along the north side of the marsh. Interpretive brochures are available from the Park Manager.

#### **Bug Lake City Park**

Squalicum Parkway and Birchwood Avenue, Bellingham

Contact: Bellingham City Parks, (360) 676-6985

The South Shore Trail allows the viewing of some privately owned wetlands. The wetlands, in the Squalicum creek floodplain, consist of cottowoods, alders and skunk cabbage. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

#### **Chuckanut Bay Marsh City Park**

Fairhaven Street, Bellingham

Contact: Bellingham City Parks, (360) 676-6985

Some of the cattail marsh in this area is in public ownership, providing marine access.

**Connelly Creek Nature Area**

30th and Douglas Street, Bellingham

Contact: Bellingham City Parks, (360) 676-6985

A service road heads south from the intersection of 30th and Douglas and takes you to the wetland. This area is a small tributary of Padden Creek, and consists primarily of forested wetlands. Parking is limited.

**Lake Louise Bog**

2.5 miles east of Bellingham

Contact: Department of Natural Resources, Northwest Region, (360) 856-0083

This bog off of Lake Louise road is managed jointly by the Department of Natural Resources and Western Washington University. It has some open water, with willow and grasses around the edge. It is surrounded by large Douglas fir with a hemlock and cedar understory. There is a trail.

**Gunn Swamp City Park**

Old Fairhaven parkway and 24th Street, Bellingham

Contact: Bellingham City Parks, (360) 676-6985

The Interurban Trail extends south from the intersection of 24th and Old Fairhaven Parkway. The trail offers a close look at Gunn Swamp, a forested and shrub-scrub swamp area. Parking is limited and there are no restrooms.

**Lake Terrell**

5 miles west of Ferndale

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4, (360) 384-4723

Lake Terrell is a 500-acre bog, most of which is very shallow. Access is limited to canoes or hip waders.

**Scudder Beaver Pond**

Alabama Street and Electric Avenue, Bellingham

Contact: Bellingham City Parks, (360) 676-6985

The Old Northern Pacific Railroad Trail leads southwest from the intersection of Alabama and Electric and takes you to areas of cattail marsh and beaver ponds. parking is limited.

**Silver Fir Campground**

11 miles east of Glacier on the Mount Baker Highway

Contact: Mount Baker Ranger District, (360) 856-5700

Near the campground are several square miles of beaver ponds associated with Anderson Creek and other tributaries to the North Fork of the Nooksack River. A logging road goes along the south edge of the pond area.

**Tennant Lake Interpretive Center**

5236 Nielsen Road, Ferndale

Contact: Park Manager, (360) 384-3444

Tennant Lake is an extensive, 300 acre wetland area with a quarter-mile loop boardwalk and a viewing tower for year-round self-guided tours. An interpretive center, with displays and classroom space, is open in the summer months or by reservation. Call for more information.



**Klemgard County Park**

Highway 195 between Colfax and Pullman

Contact: Whitman County Parks, (509) 397-2684

Union Flat Creek flows through the park, crossed by a bridge and surrounded by willow and tall grass. Facilities include hiking and interpretive trails, a playground and a picnic area. Call ahead for guided nature walks.

**Wawawai County park**

Wawawai Road, 15 miles south of Pullman

Contact: Whitman County Parks, (509) 397-4304

This wetland formed where Wawawai Creek flows into the Snake River. It supports cattails, birds, mammals and wetland vegetation. Facilities include a campground, a one mile interpretive trail, a picnic area, and a playground. Call ahead for guided nature walks.

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**Yakima County****Eschbach County Park**

5 miles west of Yakima on South Naches Road

Contact Yakima County Parks, (509) 575-4363

This is a 175-acre park on the Naches River, 125 acres of which is an undeveloped riparian zone. Several beaver ponds are in the undeveloped area; they can be reached by trails. An irrigation channel from the Naches runs through the park, with two sediment containment ponds.

**Interstate 82 Wildlife Area**

Between Zillah and Union Gap

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 3, (509) 575-2740

Situated between I-82 and the Yakima River, the area has undisturbed ponds, an old gravel pit turned pond, and sloughs which support cottonwood, willow, waterfowl, beaver and other wildlife. Access is by undeveloped trails and old roads. Call ahead for tours.

**Oak Creek Wildlife Area**

On Tieton River at Highway 12

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 3, (509) 575-2740

This area is a winter feeding ground for elk, as well as the northern limit of oak forest habitat. With both the Tieton and Naches rivers flowing through the area, there are approximately nine acres of river marsh habitat. The interpretive center and restrooms are open daily in the winter as long as elk are present, and at other times by reservation only.

**Sunnyside Wildlife Area**

Off I-82, 3 miles south of Sunnyside

Contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 3, (509) 575-2740

This site contains a series of eight to ten acre ponds off the Yakima River which support a variety of waterfowl. Access is by trails. Call ahead for reservations.

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**Wetlands Educational Materials**

The following educational materials are available free of charge from the Washington State Department of Ecology:

## Publications

*At home with Wetlands: A landowner's Guide, #90-31* -- Describes ways landowners can protect or enhance wetlands on their property.

*Wetland Preservation: An Information and Action Guide, #90-5* -- Outlines methods private citizens, nonprofit organizations and public agencies can use to preserve wetlands.

*Wetland regulation Guidebook, #88-5* -- A clear and concise overview of the regulations affecting wetlands.

*Washington Wetlands, #88-24* -- A booklet briefly describing the functions and values of wetlands.

## Videos

*Fabulous Wetlands, VHS, 7 minutes* -- A wacky and entertaining video featuring Bill Nye "the Science Guy" talking about the importance of wetlands.

*Washington Wetlands, VHS, 15 minutes* -- A video of still images that provides an overview of fresh and saltwater wetlands in Washington.

*Yellowlegs, Eelgrass and Tideflats, VHS, 25 minutes* -- A beautiful film on Washington's estuaries emphasizing the variety of wildlife common to these areas.